5th December 1952]

Revenue department and they have been transferred to various departments outside the Pudukkottai division. The question of permanent absorption of these peons and of giving them the Madras scales of pay is under the consideration of the Government.

"(e) & (f) Yes. The number of temporary peons appointed is not readily available. The temporary peons are appointed only in short vacancies caused by leave, etc., and they will have to be ousted when permanent incumbents join."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, is it a fact that these surplus peons had applied for retirement on some advantageous terms rather than be allowed to take up employment elsewhere on Pudukkottai scales of pay and not on the advantageous Madras scales of pay?" 2–20 p.m.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, we have made some supernumerary appointments also in order to make it possible for some of these peons to get permanency."

SRI R. SIDDANNA GOWD :—" Will these peons be retransferred to Pudukkottai, Sir, whenever vacancies occur, in the interests of these low-paid peons?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Oh, Yes, Sir; certainly."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister told us that there are surplus peons. Are we to infer that the Pudukkottai State had recruited more peons than were absolutely necessary, for their Revenue department?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Probably it was done under the Durbar conditions, Sir."

Manufacture of neera in the State.

* 290 Q.—SRI C. V. K. RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to encourage the manufacture of neera in the State?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Yes, Sir, Government are considering the ways and means by which neera can be made available to the public without detriment to the policy of enforcement of Prohibition."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister clarify the statement ' without detriment to the enforcement of prohibition '. It is so vague and sweeping."

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" No, Sir, it is not vague."

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY :—" Sir, when the Government have accepted the principle of supplying neera to the people of the State, may I know why the Government should not take steps to

[5th December 1952

put up for sale neera shops by public auction, as was done in the case of the toddy and arrack shops during the pre-prohibition days, and thereby improve the finances of this State?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" The popularising of neera will be taken up by Government gradually and with caution."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Will the Government allow the extraction of neera from toddy palms?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Yes, Sir; it is being allowed under certain conditions."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" ప్రభుత్వానికి నీరా ఆరోగ్యకరమైనటువంటి పదార్థమని తెలుసు. అయినప్పుడు కరువుప్రాంతమైన రాయలసీమలో దానిని ప్రజలు ఆహార పదార్థంగా ఉపయోగించడానికిముందు ఎందుకు అంగీకరించ లేదో చెబుతారా?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :— " Notice, please."

SRI K. SUBBA REDDI :—" రాష్ట్రం మొత్తంమీద నీరా ఉపయోగాన్ని అనుమతించుటకు ఎన్నిరోజులు పడుతుంది?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Sir, it all depends upon the success of the experiment which the Government make in this regard."

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—" నీరా శరీర ఆరోగ్యానికి మంచిదని ప్రభుత్వం గుర్తించినపుడు దానిని రాష్ట్రం మొత్తంగా ఉపయోగించుటకు అనుమతించడంలో నష్టమేమి వచ్చిందని అడుగుతున్నాను?"

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister stated . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I want a translation of the question put in Telugu."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" I am not exactly translating, Sir; but very likely I will myself put the question. Sir, the experts in Government have recognised that this neera is of nutritious value; and it is also known to the Government that it is popular and people are demanding it. What then is the reason for the 'gradualness and the cautious-ness' which really means denial?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" So far as I am able to understand, it is not very popular in Andhra."

SRI V. V. RAMASAMI :—" Sir, when the Government come to the decision that they should encourage the manufacture of neera, will it be done as a State enterprise or will it be left to private enterprise?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" That is a hypothetical question."

5th December 1952]

SRI K. RAJAGOPALA RAO :—" ఆంధ్ర దేశంలో ఉన్న కల్లుగీత పనివార్ల సంఘాలు, ఇతరులు నీరా తయారు చేయుటకు అనుమతించమని ఎన్నో మెమొరాండంలు పంపుకొన్న విషయం మంత్రిగారికి తెలుసు ; అలాంటప్పుడు ఆంధ్రలో నీరా popular గా లేదని సాకు చెప్పడం ప్రజాభిప్రాయానికి విరుద్ధంకాదా ? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Sir, I had some experience during my tour in Krishna and other parts of Andhra districts. There, I was told that the people are not generally taking to neera as they are doing in Tamil Nad."

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM :—" ప్రభుత్వం కొన్ని experiments చేసిందని మంత్రిగారు సెలవిచ్చారు. అయితే ఆ experiments ఫలితము లేమో తెలియ జేస్తారా ? "

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Sir, the Minister stated that they have been conducting some experiments; what is the result of those experiments? Also, he said that it is not popular in Andhra. Apparently, it is popular in Tamil Nad. Do all the twelve districts there possess the liberty of manufacturing neera as they like? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" No, Sir. It is not right to say that they have got absolute liberty. It all depends upon how Government give them permission to do so."

SRI C. RAJAM RAMASWAMI :—" Sir, as neera is considered a nutritious and healthy drink, will the Hon. Minister consider the opening of neera parlours in all the slums in Madras City? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" For the information of the House, I may say that neera parlours were opened in two places in the Madras City. The tapping of neera is seasonal and we cannot expect neera to be available throughout the year. In the off-season, the distribution of neera was stopped."

SRI VENKATASUBBA REDDI :—" Am I correct in my surmise that the Government are cautious in this neera business, because of the likely misuse it will be put to? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Exactly, so, Sir."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Will the Hon. Minister kindly tell us what exactly is the taste of this neera? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" It is very sweet and nice." (Laughter.)

Harijan Gazetted Officers in the Agricultural department.

* 291 Q.—SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether any (i) Harijans and (ii) Christians are employed in Gazetted posts in the Agricultural department; and